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| **From:** | Kelley, Craig |
| **To:** | Hailey Alm |
| **Subject:** | RE: Cambridge City Council and the Israel BDS movement |
| **Date:** | Friday, April 13, 2018 11:30:00 AM |

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Thanks, Hailey.

I think I will stick with my current meetings.

Craig

**From:** Hailey Alm [mailto:h.alm09@gmail.com]
**Sent:** Friday, April 13, 2018 10:31 AM
**To:** Kelley, Craig <ckelley@cambridgema.gov>
**Subject:** Re: Cambridge City Council and the Israel BDS movement

Hi Councilor Kelley,

Thank you for sharing your thoughts on this important matter. I want to offer a couple thoughts of my own in response.

I am aware that opponents of this boycott campaign have been repeating the argument that the boycott seeks to "*delegitimize Israel as a Jewish State*" (as the ADL put it in their recent action alert). I feel this argument is a highly tendentious and misleading framing of the campaign for Cambridge to boycott HP Inc and HPE, and I would like to explain why:

This boycott does not preclude Cambridge residents from advocating for other causes internationally. And indeed other Cambridge residents and members of the Cambridge City Council ***are*** advocating for other causes internationally: Just a week and a half ago on April 2nd, Cambridge adopted another resolution explicitly opposing the "Oppressive Policies of the Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman," due to the human rights abuses currently being perpetrated in Saudi Arabia. Similarly, the Cambridge city council and cambridge community members have taken positions on human rights abuses in other foreign nations, including but not limited to El Salvador and South Africa.

In contrast to the claims by opponents this resolution if passed would "single out Israel," I believe that by passing this resolution Cambridge would remains consistent with the city's proven commitment of opposing all human rights abuses everywhere, rather than being inconsistent with this proven commitment by making an exception in the case Israeli policies that abuse human rights and violate international law, due to lobbying pressure.

I would be happy to put you in touch with someone who can explain these points over the phone if you like and I am also aware, as you note, that you have and will be meeting with people from both sides.

Best,
Hailey

Hailey Alm
Pronouns: she/her/hers
ABSN Student at MGH Institute of Health Professions

On Fri, Apr 13, 2018 at 8:47 AM, Kelley, Craig <ckelley@cambridgema.gov> wrote:

> Thanks for your note, Hailey.
>
> I know next to nothing about this except that I am being bombarded with emails from people who seem to know more and I found a flyer at the Kennedy School last week. I am meeting with pro and con folks next week and the week after to learn more.
>
> Not having seen the resolution, which won't be officially posted until the Thursday before the Council meeting, I cannot say anything with surety except that I will not support an attempt to delegitimize Israel although I could be supportive of something that expresses concerns over some of Israel's policies without singling them out as the only nation in the world with problematic policies.
>
> I also think this is a lousy way to manipulate local government. If we want to take stances on good and bad in the world, and arguably we should, it only seems fair that we do so via some agreed upon criteria that does not single out specific entities for the sake of political expedience.
>
> But like I said, I actually have not seen anything for the Council yet so my opinion is not well informed.
>
> Craig